

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
USMISSION GENEVA
ALL NATO CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 160117

HOLD FOR OPEN NG OF BUSINESS - BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, NATO

SUBJECT: FRENCH THREAT TO NATO CSCE PREPARATIONS

REF: USNATO 6599

1. DEPARTMENT SHARES MISSION'S ASSESSMENT OF THE POTENTIAL
SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS OF FRENCH RELUCTANCE TO PARTICIPATE
IN CSCE CONSULTATIONS. WE AGREE THAT THIS STEP COULD
AFFECT OTHER COOPERATIVE UNDERTAKINGS IN THE ALLIANCE,
INCLUDING THE EAST-WEST STUDY. AN ADDITIONAL CSCE
PROBLEM WOULD BE THE EFFECT THE FRENCH POSITION WOULD HAVE
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ON THE USEFUL ALLIANCE COOPERATION IN MONITORING CSCE
IMPLEMENTATION. FOR THESE REASONS, WE BELIEVE IT IS
IMPORTANT FOR THE US TO GO ON THE RECORD IN OPPOSITION TO
THE FRENCH ANNOUNCEMENT. THE TALKING POINTS TRANSMITTED
IN PARA 10 OF REFTTEL PROVIDE THE RIGHT TONE FOR SUCH A
PRESENTATION AND WE APPROVE THEIR USE AS APPROPRIATE.

2. DEPARTMENT WOULD PREFER TO REFRAIN FROM COMMENTING ON
POSSIBLE FALLBACKS, ON THE QUESTION OF GENERAL CSCE
CONSULTATIONS AND ON THE FORMAT OF SUBSTANTIVE PAPERS
UNTIL WE HAVE A CLEARER IDEA OF THE REACTION OF THE FRENCH
AND OTHER ALLIES TO YOUR PRESENTATION AND THE JULY 12
POLADS MEETING. VANCE

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